

JANUARY/ FEBRUARY 2007



Trees on Maine Street Bulletin

IN THE WORKS



Goldenrain tree

Koeleruteria paniculata

Goldenrain tree grows 30 to 40 feet tall with an equal spread, in a broad, somewhat irregular globe shape. Some trees appear vase shaped. This species is unrivaled for its late yellow flowers, one of the very few yellow flowering trees. Though it has a reputation for being somewhat weak wooded, it is rarely attacked by pests and grows in a wide range of soils, including high pH soils. Goldenrain is a choice specimen where space is limited, and should be used more in large parking lot islands, tree lawns and parking lot buffers where salt tolerance and poor soil conditions will kill many other plants. USDA Zone 5.

MAINE DEPARTMENT OF
CONSERVATION
MAINE FOREST SERVICE

R. ALEC GIFFEN
DIRECTOR

FOREST POLICY AND
MANAGEMENT DIVISION
We help you make informed decisions about
Maine forests



MAINE FOREST SERVICE PROJECT CANOPY

The Emerald Ash Borer (EAB), an insect that has caused considerable mortality in ash species in the mid-west, has continued to spread into new areas. In late November, the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) expanded the quarantine of EAB to include the entire states of Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio, more than doubling the previous quarantine area. The EAB has been a particularly successful invasive insect pest. The small wood boring beetle adults are bright green in color, and emerge from infested wood in early June. Eggs are deposited in ash trees and hatch into larvae. The larvae enter the tree and feed just below the bark, in the cambium and outer sapwood. Currently, APHIS has estimated that this insect, which was introduced into this country from China or eastern Asia in 2002, has killed over 25 million ash trees in the United States. The EAB is believed to have been introduced to the United States on wood packing material or pallets, commonly used to ship consumer goods. The insect is not known to occur in Maine, and efforts are being taken to prevent further spread of the pest from the Midwest. Human activities, particularly the movement of infested firewood to campgrounds and other locations in areas where this insect is not yet present is a very clear and present danger. A Pest Alert Leaflet is available from the Maine Forest Service with diagnostic pictures of this insect and the damage. We urge everyone to be vigilant for the EAB, and to report any suspect ash material to the Maine Forest Service. For more information on EAB prevention, contact the offices of Project Canopy at 1-800-367-0223.

2007 PROJECT CANOPY ASSISTANCE GRANTS AVAILABLE

Project Canopy Assistance Grants are available to state, county, and municipal governments, educational institutions, and non-profit organizations for developing and implementing community forestry projects and programs. Project Canopy, a cooperative partnership between the Department of Conservation's Maine Forest Service and the Pine Tree State Arboretum, anticipates that \$200,000 will be available to support community forestry projects in the following categories:

Inner-city improvement

\$10,000 maximum award

Projects improve the health and livability of Maine's most urbanized and underserved neighborhoods.

Planning and Education

\$8,000 maximum award

Projects support long-term sustainable community forestry management and efforts to increase awareness of the benefits of trees and forests.

Planting and Maintenance

\$5,000 maximum award

Projects increase the health and livability of communities through sound tree planting and maintenance.

To be eligible to apply for 2007 Project Canopy Assistance grants, all applicants must attend a grant workshop prior to submitting an application (excluding previous workshop attendees). Grant workshops are scheduled for the 3rd and 4th weeks in January, will be held in various locations throughout the state, and will cover topics including grant writing, project development, sustainable community forestry management, and grant administration. Grant applications are due to the Maine forest Service at 5:00 pm on March 16, 2007.

For complete grant application and workshop information, please visit the Project Canopy website at www.projectcanopy.org. You can also learn more about the Project Canopy assistance program by contacting Becky Tavani by phone (207) 287-4987, or by email at becky.tavani@maine.gov

COMBINING TREE PURCHASES AND USING BARE ROOT TREES SAVES BUDGETS

Planting trees in communities can be costly and labor intensive due to the tree size required (12-15 ft. tall with a 2" caliper) to assure their survival on a street. The standard transplanting method – using balled and burlapped trees – includes soil and a root ball weighing approximately 300 pounds for each tree, which usually requires heavy equipment to move the tree around and plant at a site. During the digging process for balled and burlapped trees, approximately 95 percent of the tree's root system is cut off and left in the nursery, putting these trees under stress or "transplant shock" for a few years. With limited funds, community tree programs must make their dollars go further, use volunteers, and show good tree survival if their program is to be sustained by the community and local tax dollars. Since 1998, communities in northeast Pennsylvania have planted more than 6,000 bare-root trees with over 25 communities taking part as well as several organizations, including PennDOT, universities, and professional arborists. These communities have saved a total of approximately \$1 million on tree program costs. In addition, the trees can be easily planted by volunteers and are more often planted at the proper depth because roots are more visible. If your community is interested in finding out more about this buying collaborative, or looking at the possibility of planting bare-root stock, contact the offices of Project Canopy at 207-287-4987.

BILLION TREES CAMPAIGN

A campaign to plant a billion trees within a year was launched at the United Nations Climate change conference in Nairobi Kenya in November, 2006 in a bid to encourage all sectors of society, from concerned citizens to philanthropic corporations, to take small but practical steps to combat what is probably the key challenge of the 21st century. The Plant for the Planet: Billion Tree Campaign, backed by Nobel Peace Prize laureate and Green Belt Movement activist Wangari Maathai, Prince Albert II of Monaco and the world Agroforestry Centre-ICRAF, is being coordinated by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). Rehabilitating tens of millions of hectares of degraded land and reforesting the Earth is necessary to restore the productivity of soil and water resources, and expanding tree cover will



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IN THE WORKS (continued)

“Life without love is like a tree
without blossom and fruit.”
- *Khalil Gibran*

LINKING UP



UP AND COMING

PROJECT CANOPY
assists communities and nonprofit,
grassroots organizations in building self-
sustaining urban and community forestry
programs with strong local support.

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www.projectcanopy.org

mitigate the build-up of atmospheric carbon dioxide, a global warming greenhouse gas. People and entities from around the world are encouraged to enter pledges at the UNEP Billion Tree Campaign website at www.unep.org/billiontreecampaign. The campaign is open to all – individuals, children and youth groups, schools, community groups, non-governmental organizations, farmers, private sector organizations, local authorities, and national governments. Each pledge can be anything from a single tree to 10 million trees. So far, over 120 million trees have been pledged!

URBAN FORESTS ON THE AIRWAVES

With a grant from the Forest Service and American Forests, Soundprint has produced a 10 part radio documentary series on the value of urban forests. Learn more at <http://trees.soundprint.org/>.

NORTHERN TREES WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT

Rutgers University, in partnership with the University of Florida and USDA Forest Service Northeast region, is pleased to announce the Northern Trees Web site. This site helps guide users through the process of tree selection and provides a list of possible site-specific trees in hardiness zones 2 through 7 in the Northeastern United States. It also provides extensive cultural and maintenance information and photographs. The principal authors include Dr. Ed Gilman and Dr. Howard Beck, professors at the University of Florida, and Dr. Jason Grabowsky from Rutgers. The Tree Selector allows users to develop a list of trees by choosing soil, site, and plant attributes with the option of marking more than one value. The Web site has an extensive list of approximately 1,300 trees by scientific and common name, a site analysis tool and form, and a tree expert system for novices that is still under development. For more information, go to <http://orb.at.ufl.edu/TREES/index.html>

January

9-11 Maine Agricultural Trade Show, Augusta Civic Center. Contact the Department of Agriculture at 287-3871 FMI.

10-11 Massachusetts Tree Wardens and Foresters Association Annual conference. Sturbridge, MA. FMI call (781) 894-4759

10-11 Northeastern Urban Research Organizational Network (NEURON) Conference (www.bc.edu/neuron). Contact Marie Aucoin at neuron@bc.edu with any further questions.

13 International Tree Failure Database Workshop, 9 AM – 1 PM. Holdsworth Hall, UMASS Amherst. Registration \$75. FMI contact 413-545-0895 or email eweeks@umext.umass.edu. ISA, SAF and ASLA credits have been requested.

16 Maine Landscape and Nursery Association Annual Trade Show, Augusta Civic Center. Kevin O'Conner, host of This Old House is the 2007 keynote speaker. For additional information contact MELNA at 207-225-3767 or visit their website at www.melna.org

17 Urban Natural Resources Institute Webcast, "Handheld Computer Technology: Solutions for Urban Natural Resources Management", 11 AM. Visit www.unri.org/webcast FMI.

21 Winter Nature walk or snowshoe. 1 – 3 PM. Pine Tree State Arboretum. Join Arboretum Education Director, Darcy Whittemore on a winter adventure into the Arboretum's deep woods. Learn basic track shapes, sizes and patterns and look for tracks and signs of animals active in winter. Bring snowshoes or rent from PTSA. Preregistration required, member \$5, non-members \$10. FMI contact PTSA at 621-0031

February

4 Super Sunday Ski & Snowshoe Outdoor Table Tour. 11 AM – 2 PM. Pine Tree State Arboretum, Augusta, ME. Ski or Snowshoe the Arboretum's extensive trail system while filling your belly with delicious gourmet food from local eateries. Pre-registration for members \$10, non-members \$15, day of registration \$15 and \$20, children 5 and under \$5. Proceeds benefit PTSA. FMI contact PTSA at 207-621-0031

6-8 New England Grows, Boston Convention and Exhibition Center, Boston, MA. FMI visit www.negrows.org or call (508) 653-3009

March

3 Maine Arborist Association Annual Meeting, Verillos Conference Center, Portland, Maine. Kevin Smith, USDA Forest Service is the 2007 keynote speaker. Contact MAA at 207-657-3256 to register.

25 Maine Maple Sunday. Sugarhouses throughout Maine offer free tastings and demonstrations. To find a list of participating sugarhouses visit www.getrealgetmaine.com

If you would like to put your community's activity on the calendar, please let one of the editors know by the 15th of each month.

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